the State Governments that the five days given to States for submitting proposals under the "Swajaldhara" scheme was not sufficient;

(b) if so, whether Government have extended the time limit in this regard;

(c) whether the work on 'Swajaldhara' has commenced; and

(d) by when this scheme is likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI SHANTA KUMAR): (a) to (d) Date line 10th December, 2002 for receiving the Swajaldhara proposals mentioned in this Ministry letter addressed to all State Governments, was kept for enabling the Ministry to process the proposals for ensuring that necessary sanctions are issued well in advance at least in some cases, for the executing agencies to take up actual works in their respective areas on the 25th December, 2002. Hon'ble Prime Minister launched Swajaldhara Programme for the entire country on 25th December, 2002. Further, in this Ministry's letter dated 9th December, 2002 addressed to all Ministers and all Members of Parliament, it was clarified that Swajaldhara proposals received after 10th December, 2002 would also be processed as and when received from the State Government.

As on 6th March, 2003, 17513 Swajaldhara Proposals have been received. On scrutiny, the National Scheme Sanctioning Committee of Government of India has so far approved 3841 proposals. Swajaldhara is an ongoing programme.

Vision-2020 for facilities in Rural Areas

†*318. SHRIMATI MAYA SINGH: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) programmes formulated in Vision-2020 to provide urban facilities in rural areas during the coming three years;

(b) the main features of the programme; and

(c) the details of the cooperation of State Governments for the success of the programme?

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

THE MINISTER OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI SHANTA KUMAR): (a) No such programme has been formulated by the Ministry of Rural Development to provide urban facilities in rural areas during the coming three years.

(b) to (c) Questions do not arise.

Performance of SEBs under APDRP

*319. SHRI KARNENDU BHATTACHARJEE: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) the targets set for financial and better performance to be achieved by each State Electricity Board (SEB) under Accelerated Power Development and Reforms Programme (APDRP);

(b) the circumstances under which SEBs were forced to avail the services of consultants with little experiences of distribution sector;

(c) if so, the details of consultancy charges being paid and whether it will be a grant or loan to SEBs from Government; and

(d) whether these charges could have been saved by availing the services of CEA; if so, whether Government propose to assign this work to CEA?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI ANANT GANGARAM GEETE): (a) Under Accelerated Power Development and Reforms Programme, it is envisaged that in the next five years each of the State Electricity Boards (SEBs) would

(i) reduce the T&D losses to 15%, and

(ii) achieve financial turnaround.

However, on account of differing conditions and circumstances prevailing in the States, the milestones to achieve the above can vary from SEB to SEB.

(b) In order to ensure that the above objectives are achieved within the given time frame, turnkey project approach involving concept to commissioning was adopted rather than continue with the existing system of implementation. Organizations with experience in execution of turnkey